

CLAIMS

1. A novel polypeptide having water channel activity which has the amino acid sequence, within the molecule thereof, shown in the sequence listing under SEQ ID NO:1.

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2. A nucleotide sequence which codes for a polypeptide having, within the molecule thereof, the amino acid sequence shown in the sequence listing under SEQ ID NO:1 and having water channel activity.

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3. The DNA sequence shown in the sequence listing under SEQ DI NO:2.

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4. A polypeptide having water channel activity which has the amino acid sequence, within the molecule thereof, encoded by the nucleotide No.173 to No.1198 of the nucleotide sequence shown in the sequence listing under SEQ ID NO:2.

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